2001-03 in the village under P.O. Sansai. In addition there was a registered demand of 71 applicants for fresh telephone connections out of which 26 have been provided the telephone connections and 45 registrants are in the waiting list.

(b) and (c) During last year, 26 subscribers got their demand registered for new telephone connections from far flung areas and they could not be provided telephone connections due to non feasibility. They are likely to get connections progressively before the end of the Financial Year.

FDI sectoral cap in telecom

2570. DR. M.N. DAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether following objections raised by the security agencies to increase the FDI sectoral cap in telecom, the Department of Telecommunications has recommended an alternative route of placing FII investments outside the existing sectoral cap subject to an overall cap of 74 per cent;

(b) if so, whether the proposal of 'Universal licence' regime that is to replace the present system of separate licenses for basic, cellular and long distance operations has also been considered;

(c) if so, to what extent these decisions have been approved and finalised; and

(d) the steps being taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Investment through Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) is already allowed in the telecom sector within the sectoral caps. A proposal to allow FIIs investment outside the sectoral cap is at the discussion level only, in which various angles, including those relating to security have been included.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has however, issued a Consultation Paper on unified licensing and has invited the comments on the same.

Sale of personal computers

2571. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state: